

CHAPTER 64  
WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION PERMITS

[Prior to 7/1/83, DEQ Ch 19]

[Prior to 12/3/86, Water, Air and Waste Management[900]]

**567—64.1(455B) Definitions.** Rescinded IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09.

**567—64.2(455B) Permit to construct.**

**64.2(1)** No person shall construct, install or modify any wastewater disposal system or part thereof or extension or addition thereto without, or contrary to any condition of, a construction permit issued by the director or by a local public works department authorized to issue such permits under 567—Chapter 9, nor shall any connection to a sewer extension in violation of any special limitation specified in a construction permit pursuant to 64.2(10) be allowed by any person subject to the conditions of the permit.

**64.2(2)** The site for each new wastewater treatment plant or expansion or upgrading of existing facilities must be inspected and approved by the department prior to submission of plans and specifications. Applications must be submitted in accordance with 567—60.4(455B).

**64.2(3)** Site approval under 64.2(2) shall be based on the criteria contained in the Ten States Standards, design manuals published by the department, applicable federal guidelines and standards, standard textbooks, current technical literature and applicable safety standards. To the extent that separation distances of this subrule conflict with the separation distances of Iowa Code section 455B.134(3) “f,” the greater distance shall prevail. The following separation distances from a treatment works shall apply unless a separation distance exception is provided in the “Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards.” The separation distance from lagoons shall be measured from the water surface.

*a.* 1000 feet from the nearest inhabitable residence, commercial building, or other inhabitable structure. If the inhabitable or commercial building is the property of the owner of the proposed treatment facility, or there is written agreement with the owner of the building, the separation criteria shall not apply. Any such written agreement shall be filed with the county recorder and recorded for abstract of title purposes, and a copy submitted to the department.

*b.* 1000 feet from public shallow wells.

*c.* 400 feet from public deep wells.

*d.* 400 feet from private wells.

*e.* 400 feet from lakes and public impoundments.

*f.* 25 feet from property lines and rights-of-way.

When the above separation distances cannot be maintained for the expansion, upgrading or replacement of existing facilities, the separation distances shall be maintained at no less than 90 percent of the existing separation distance on the site, providing no data is available indicating that a problem has existed or will be created.

**64.2(4)** Applications for a construction permit must be submitted to the director in accordance with 567—60.4(455B) at least 120 days in advance of the date of start of construction.

**64.2(5)** The director shall act upon the application within 60 days of receipt of a complete application by either issuing a construction permit or denying the construction permit in writing unless a longer review period is required and the applicant is so notified in writing. Notwithstanding the 120-day requirement in 64.2(4), construction of the approved system may commence immediately after the issuance of a construction permit.

**64.2(6)** The construction permit shall expire if construction thereunder is not commenced within one year of the date of issuance thereof. The director may grant an extension of time to commence construction if it is necessary or justified, upon showing of such necessity or justification to the director.

**64.2(7)** The director may modify or revoke a construction permit for cause which shall include but not be limited to the following:

*a.* Failure to construct said wastewater disposal system or part thereof in accordance with the approved plans and specifications.

*b.* Violation of any term or condition of the permit.

*c.* Obtaining a permit by misrepresentation of facts or failure to disclose fully all material facts.

*d.* Any change during construction that requires material changes in the approved plans and specifications.

**64.2(8)** A construction permit shall not be required for the following:

- a.* Storm sewers or storm water disposal systems that transport only storm water.
- b.* Any new disposal system or extension or addition to any existing disposal system that receives only domestic or sanitary sewage from a building, housing or occupied by 15 persons or less.
- c.* A privately owned pretreatment facility, except an anaerobic lagoon, where a treatment unit or units provide partial reduction of the strength or toxicity of the waste stream prior to additional treatment and disposal by another person, corporation, or municipality. However, the department may require that the design basis and construction drawings be filed for information purposes.

**64.2(9)** Review of applications.

*a.* Review of applications for construction permits shall be based on the criteria contained in the “Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards,” the Ten States Standards, the “Iowa Antidegradation Implementation Procedure” effective August 12, 2016, applicable federal guidelines and standards, standard textbooks, current technical literature and applicable safety standards. To the extent of any conflict between the above criteria, the “Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards” standards shall prevail.

*b.* The chapters of the “Iowa Wastewater Facilities Design Standards”\* that apply to wastewater facilities projects, and the date of adoption of those chapters are:

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Date of Adoption</u>
11. Project submittals	April 25, 1979
12. Iowa Standards for Sewer Systems	September 6, 1978 (Amended March 28, 1979 and May 20, 1987)
13. Wastewater pumping stations and force mains	March 19, 1985
14. Wastewater treatment works	March 22, 1984 (Amended May 20, 1987)
15. Screening and grit removal	February 18, 1986
16. Settling	March 22, 1984 (Amended May 20, 1987)
17. Sludge handling & disposal	March 26, 1980
18. Biological treatment	
<i>A.</i> Fixed film media treatment	October 21, 1985
<i>B.</i> Activated sludge	March 22, 1984
<i>C.</i> Wastewater treatment ponds (Lagoons)	April 25, 1979 (Amended May 20, 1986 and May 20, 1987)
19. Supplemental treatment processes	November 13, 1986
20. Disinfection	February 18, 1986
21. Land application of wastewater	April 25, 1979

\*The design manual as adopted and amended is available upon request to department, also filed with administrative rules coordinator.

*c.* Waivers from the design standards and siting criteria which provide in the judgment of the department for substantially equivalent or improved effectiveness may be requested when there are unique circumstances not found in most projects. The director may issue waivers when circumstances are appropriate. The denial of a waiver may be appealed to the commission.

*d.* When reviewing the waiver request the director may consider the unique circumstances of the project, direct or indirect environmental impacts, the durability and reliability of the alternative, and the purpose and intent of the rule or standard in question.

*e.* Circumstances that would warrant consideration of a waiver (which provides for substantially equivalent or improved effectiveness) may include the following:

(1) The utilization of new equipment or new process technology that is not explicitly covered by the current design standards.

(2) The application of established and acceptable technologies in an innovative manner not covered by current standards.

(3) It is reasonably clear that the conditions and circumstances which were considered in the adoption of the rule or standard are not applicable for the project in question and therefore the effective purpose of the rule will not be compromised if a waiver is granted.

**64.2(10)** Applications for sanitary sewer extension construction permits shall conform to the Iowa Standards for Sewer Systems, and approval shall be subject to the following:

*a.* A sanitary sewer extension construction permit may be denied if, at the time of application, the treatment facility treating wastewater from the proposed sewer is not in substantial compliance with its operating permit or if the treatment facility receives wastes in volumes or quantities that exceed its design capacity and interfere with its operation or performance.

If the applicant is operating under a compliance schedule which is being adhered to that leads to resolution of the substantial compliance issues or if the applicant can demonstrate that the problem has been identified, the planning completed, and corrective measures initiated, then the construction permit may be granted.

*b.* A sanitary sewer extension construction permit may be denied if bypassing has occurred at the treatment facility, except when any of the following conditions are being met:

(1) The bypassing is due to a combined sewer system, and the facility is in compliance with a long-term CSO control plan approved by the department.

(2) The bypassing occurs as a result of a storm with an intensity or duration greater than that of a storm with a return period of five years. (See App. A)

(3) The department determines that timely actions are being taken to eliminate the bypassing.

*c.* A sanitary sewer extension construction permit may be denied if an existing downstream sewer is or will be overloaded or surcharged, resulting in bypassing, flooded basements, or overflowing manholes, unless:

(1) The bypassing or flooding is the result of a precipitation event with an intensity or duration greater than that of a storm with a return period of two years. (See App. A); or

(2) The system is under full-scale facility planning (I/I and SSES) and the applicant provides a schedule that is approved by the department for rehabilitating the system to the extent necessary to handle the additional loadings.

*d.* Potential loads. Construction permits may be granted for sanitary sewer extensions that are sized to serve future loads that would exceed the capacity of the existing treatment works. However, initial connections shall be limited to the load that can be handled by the existing treatment works. The department will determine this load and advise the applicant of the limit. This limitation will be in effect until additional treatment capacity has been constructed.

**64.2(11)** Certification of completion. Within 30 days after completion of construction, installation or modification of any wastewater disposal system or part thereof or extension or addition thereto, the permit holder shall submit a certification by a registered professional engineer that the project was completed in accordance with the approved plans and specifications.

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 2695C, IAB 8/31/16, effective 8/12/16; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

### **567—64.3(455B) Permit to operate.**

**64.3(1)** Except as otherwise provided in this subrule, in 567—Chapter 65, and in 567—Chapter 69, no person shall operate any wastewater disposal system or part thereof without, or contrary to any condition of, an operation permit issued by the director. An operation permit is not required for the following:

*a.* A private sewage disposal system which does not discharge into, or have the potential to reach, a designated water of the state or subsurface drainage tile (NOTE: private sewage disposal systems under this exemption are regulated under 567—Chapter 69).

*b.* A semipublic sewage disposal system, the construction of which has been approved by the department and which does not discharge into a water of the state.

*c.* A pretreatment system, the effluent of which is to be discharged directly to another disposal system for final treatment and disposal.

*d.* A discharge from a geothermal heat pump which does not reach a navigable water.

*e.* Water well construction and well services related discharge that does not reach a water of the United States as defined in 40 CFR Section 122.2.

*f.* Discharges from the application of biological pesticides and chemical pesticides where the discharge does not reach a water of the United States as defined in 40 CFR Section 122.2.

*g.* Agricultural storm water discharges. This exclusion applies only to the operation permit requirement set forth in this rule and does not alter other requirements of law, including but not limited to any applicable requirements of Iowa Code chapters 459 and 459A.

*h.* Dewatering discharge from the installation, repair, or maintenance of agricultural drainage systems that does not reach a water of the state. This activity is not considered operation of a wastewater disposal system.

**64.3(2)** Rescinded, effective 2/20/85.

**64.3(3)** The owner of any disposal system or part thereof in existence before August 21, 1973, for which a permit has been previously granted by the Iowa department of health or the Iowa department of environmental quality shall submit such information as the director may require to determine the conformity of such system and its operation with the rules of the department by no later than 60 days after the receipt of a request for such information from the director. If the director determines that the disposal system does not conform to the rules of the department, the director may require the owner to make such modifications as are necessary to achieve compliance. A construction permit shall be required, pursuant to 64.2(1), prior to any such modification of the disposal system.

**64.3(4)** Applications.

*a. Individual permit.* Except as provided in 64.3(4)“*b*,” applications for operation permits required under 64.3(1) shall be made on forms provided by the department, as noted in 567—60.3(455B,17A). The application for an operation permit under 64.3(1) shall be filed pursuant to 567—subrule 60.4(2). Permit applications for a new discharge of storm water associated with construction activity as defined in 567—Chapter 60 under “storm water discharge associated with industrial activity” must be submitted at least 60 days before the date on which construction is to commence. Upon completion of a tentative determination with regard to the permit application as described in 64.5(1)“*a*,” the director shall issue operation permits for applications filed pursuant to 64.3(1) within 90 days of the receipt of a complete application unless the application is for an NPDES permit or unless a longer period of time is required and the applicant is so notified.

*b. General permit.* A Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under a general permit shall be made on forms provided by the department as noted in 567—60.3(455B,17A) and in accordance with 567—64.6(455B). An NOI must be submitted to the department according to the following:

(1) For existing storm water discharge associated with industrial activity, with the exception of discharges identified in subparagraphs (2) and (3) of this paragraph, on or before October 1, 1992.

(2) For any existing storm water discharge associated with industrial activity from a facility or construction site that is owned or operated by a municipality with a population of less than 100,000 other than an airport, power plant or uncontrolled sanitary landfill, on or before March 10, 2003.

For purposes of this subparagraph, municipality means city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body created by or under state law. The entire population served by the public body shall be used in the determination of the population.

(3) For any existing storm water discharge associated with small construction activity on or before March 10, 2003.

(4) For storm water discharge associated with industrial activity which initiates operation after October 1, 1992, with the exception of discharges identified in subparagraphs (2) and (3) of this paragraph, where storm water discharge associated with industrial activity could occur as defined in rule 567—60.2(455B).

(5) For any private sewage disposal system installed after July 1, 1998, where subsoil discharge is not possible.

(6) For any discharge, except a storm water only discharge, from a mining or processing facility after July 18, 2001.

(7) For any discharge from hydrostatic testing, tank ballasting and water lines, if required to be submitted by General Permit No. 8, on or after July 1, 2018.

(8) For any discharge from dewatering or residential geothermal systems, if required to be submitted by General Permit No. 9, on or after July 1, 2018.

**64.3(5)** Requirements for industries that discharge to another disposal system except storm water point sources.

*a.* The director may require any person discharging wastes to a publicly or privately owned disposal system to submit information similar to that required in an application for an operation permit, but no operation permit is required for such discharge.

Significant industrial users as defined in 567—Chapter 60 must submit a treatment agreement which meets the following criteria:

(1) The agreement must be on the treatment agreement form, number 542-3221, as provided by the department; and

(2) Must identify and limit the monthly average and the daily maximum quantity of compatible and incompatible pollutants discharged to the disposal system and the variations in daily flow; and

(3) Be signed and dated by the significant industrial user and the owner of the disposal system accepting the wastewater; and

(4) Provide that the quantities to be discharged to the disposal system must be in accordance with the applicable standards and requirements in 567—Chapter 62.

*b.* A significant industrial user must submit a new treatment agreement form 60 days in advance of a proposed expansion, production increase or process modification that may result in discharges of sewage, industrial waste, or other waste in excess of the discharge stated in the existing treatment agreement. An industry that would become a significant industrial user as a result of a proposed expansion, production increase or process modification shall submit a treatment agreement form 60 days in advance of the proposed expansion, production increase or process modification.

*c.* A treatment agreement form must be submitted at least 180 days before a new significant industrial user proposes to discharge into a wastewater disposal system. The owner of a wastewater disposal system shall notify the director by submitting a complete treatment agreement to be received at least 10 days prior to making any commitment to accept waste from a proposed new significant industrial user. However, the department may notify the owner that verification of the data in the treatment agreement may take longer than 10 days and advise that the owner should not enter into a commitment until the data is verified.

*d.* A treatment agreement form for each significant industrial user must be submitted with the facility plan or preliminary engineering report for the construction or modification of a wastewater disposal system. These agreements will be used in determining the design basis of the new or upgraded system.

*e.* Treatment agreement forms from significant industrial users shall be required as a part of the application for a permit to operate the wastewater disposal system receiving the wastes from the significant industrial user.

**64.3(6)** Rescinded, effective 7/23/86.

**64.3(7)** NPDES permits may be granted for any period of time not to exceed five years. All other operation permits may be granted for an appropriate period of time as determined by the director, based on the type of wastewater disposal system being permitted. An application for renewal of an NPDES or operation permit must be submitted to the department 180 days in advance of the date the permit expires. General permits will be issued for a period not to exceed five years. Each permit to be renewed shall be subject to the provisions of all rules of the department in effect at the time of the renewal.

**64.3(8)** Identity of signatories of permit applications. The person who signs the application for a permit shall be:

*a. Corporations.* In the case of corporations, a responsible corporate officer. A responsible corporate officer means:

(1) A president, secretary, treasurer, or vice president in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy- or decision-making functions; or

(2) The manager of manufacturing, production, or operating facilities, if authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures.

*b. Partnerships.* In the case of a partnership, a general partner.

*c. Sole proprietorships.* In the case of a sole proprietorship, the proprietor.

*d. Municipal, state, federal, or other public agency.* In the case of a municipal, state, or other public facility, either the principal executive officer or the ranking elected official. A principal executive officer of a public agency includes:

(1) The chief executive officer of the agency; or

(2) A senior executive officer having responsibility for the overall operations of a unit of the agency.

*e. Storm water discharge associated with industrial activity from construction activities.* In the case of a storm water discharge associated with construction activity, either the owner of the site or the general contractor.

*f. Certification.* Any person signing a document under paragraph “a” to “d” of this subrule shall make the following certification:

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for known violations.

The person who signs NPDES reports shall be a person described in this subrule, except that in the case of a corporation or a public body, monitoring reports required under the terms of the permit may be submitted by a duly authorized representative of the person described in this subrule. A person is a duly authorized representative if the authorization is made in writing by a person described in this subrule and the authorization specifies an individual or position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility, such as plant manager, superintendent, or position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the corporation.

**64.3(9)** When necessary to comply with present standards which must be met at a future date, an operation permit shall include a schedule for the alteration of the permitted facility to meet said standards in accordance with 64.7(4) and 64.7(5). Such schedules shall not relieve the permittee of the duty to obtain a construction permit pursuant to 567—64.2(455B). When necessary to comply with a pretreatment standard or requirement which must be met at a future date, a significant industrial user will be given a compliance schedule for meeting those requirements.

**64.3(10)** Operation permits shall contain such conditions as are deemed necessary by the director to ensure compliance with all applicable rules of the department, including monitoring and reporting conditions, to protect the public health and beneficial uses of state waters, and to prevent water pollution from waste storage or disposal operations.

**64.3(11)** The director may amend, revoke and reissue, or terminate in whole or in part any individual operation permit or coverage under a general permit for cause. Except for general permits, the director may modify in whole or in part any individual operation permit for cause. A waiver or modification to the terms and conditions of a general permit shall not be granted. If a waiver or modification to a general permit is desired, the applicant must apply for an individual permit following the procedures in 64.3(4) “a.”

*a.* Permits may be amended, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause either at the request of any interested person (including the permittee) or upon the director’s initiative. All requests shall be in writing and shall contain facts or reasons supporting the request.

*b.* Cause under this subrule includes the following:

- (1) Violation of any term or condition of the permit.
- (2) Obtaining a permit by misrepresentation of fact or failure to disclose fully all material facts.
- (3) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the permitted discharge.
- (4) Failure to submit such records and information as the director shall require both generally and as a condition of the permit in order to ensure compliance with the discharge conditions specified in the permit.
- (5) Failure or refusal of an NPDES permittee to carry out the requirements of 64.7(7) “c.”
- (6) Failure to provide all the required application materials or appropriate fees.
- (7) A request for a modification of a schedule of compliance, an interim effluent limitation, or the minimum monitoring requirements pursuant to 567—paragraph 60.4(2) “b.”
- (8) Causes listed in 40 CFR Sections 122.62 and 122.64.

*c.* The permittee shall furnish to the director, within a reasonable time, any information that the director may request to determine whether cause exists for amending, revoking and reissuing, or terminating a permit, including a new permit application.

*d.* The filing of a request by an interested person for an amendment, revocation and reissuance, or termination does not stay any permit condition.

*e.* If the director decides the request is not justified, the director shall send the requester a brief written response giving a reason for the decision. Denials of requests for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination are not subject to public notice, comment, hearings, or appeals.

*f.* Draft permits.

(1) If the director tentatively decides to amend, revoke and reissue, or terminate a permit, a draft permit shall be prepared according to 64.5(1).

(2) When a permit is amended under this paragraph, only those conditions to be modified shall be reopened when a new draft permit is prepared. All other aspects of the existing permit shall remain in effect for the duration of the permit.

(3) When a permit is revoked and reissued under this paragraph, the entire permit is reopened just as if the permit had expired and was being reissued.

(4) If the permit amendment falls under the definition of “minor amendment” in 567—60.2(455B), the permit may be amended without a draft permit or public notice.

(5) During any amendment, revocation and reissuance, or termination proceeding, the permittee shall comply with all conditions of the existing permit until a new final permit is reissued.

**64.3(12) No permit may be issued:**

*a.* When the applicant is required to obtain certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and that certification has not been obtained or waived;

*b.* When the imposition of conditions cannot ensure compliance with the applicable water quality requirements of all affected states; or

*c.* To a new source or new discharger if the discharge from its construction or operation will cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards. The owner or operator of a new source or new discharger proposing to discharge to a water segment which does not meet applicable water quality standards must demonstrate, before the close of the public comment period for a draft NPDES permit, that:

- (1) There is sufficient remaining load in the water segment to allow for the discharge; and
- (2) The existing dischargers to the segment are subject to compliance schedules designed to bring the segment into compliance with water quality standards.

The director may waive the demonstration if the director already has adequate information to demonstrate (1) and (2).

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 8520B, IAB 2/10/10, effective 3/17/10; ARC 9365B, IAB 2/9/11, effective 3/30/11; ARC 0529C, IAB 12/12/12, effective 1/16/13; ARC 2482C, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 2572C, IAB 6/8/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 3786C, IAB 5/9/18, effective 7/1/18; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

**567—64.4(455B) Issuance of NPDES permits.**

**64.4(1) Individual permit.** An individual NPDES permit is required when there is a discharge of a pollutant from any point source into navigable waters. An NPDES permit is not required for the following:

- a. Reserved.
- b. Discharges of dredged or fill material into navigable waters which are regulated under Section 404 of the Act;
- c. The introduction of sewage, industrial wastes or other pollutants into a POTW by indirect dischargers. (This exclusion from requiring an NPDES permit applies only to the actual addition of materials into the subsequent treatment works. Plans or agreements to make such additions in the future do not relieve dischargers of the obligation to apply for and receive permits until the discharges of pollutants to navigable waters are actually eliminated. It also should be noted that, in all appropriate cases, indirect discharges shall comply with pretreatment standards promulgated by the administrator pursuant to Section 307(b) of the Act and adopted by reference by the commission);
- d. Any discharge in compliance with the instruction of an On-Scene Coordinator pursuant to 40 CFR Part 300 (The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan) or 33 CFR Section 153.10(e) (Pollution by Oil and Hazardous Substances);
- e. Any introduction of pollutants from nonpoint source agricultural and silvicultural activities, including storm water runoff from orchards, cultivated crops, pastures, range lands, and forest lands, except that this exclusion shall not apply to the following:
  - (1) Discharges from concentrated animal feeding operations as defined in 40 CFR Section 122.23;
  - (2) Discharges from concentrated aquatic animal production facilities as defined in 40 CFR Section 122.24;
  - (3) Discharges to aquaculture projects as defined in 40 CFR Section 122.25;
  - (4) Discharges from silvicultural point sources as defined in 40 CFR Section 122.27;
- f. Return flows from irrigated agriculture; and
- g. Water transfers, which are defined as activities that convey or connect navigable waters without subjecting the transferred water to intervening industrial, municipal, or commercial use.

**64.4(2) General permit.**

a. The director may issue general permits which are consistent with 64.4(2)“b” and the requirements specified in 567—64.6(455B), 567—64.7(455B), subrule 64.8(2), and 567—64.9(455B) to regulate one or more categories or subcategories of discharges where the sources within a covered category of discharges are either storm water point sources, point sources other than storm water point sources, or treatment works treating domestic sewage, if the sources within each category or subcategory meet all of the following criteria:

- (1) Involve the same or substantially similar types of operations;
  - (2) Discharge the same types of wastes;
  - (3) Require the same effluent limitations or operating conditions;
  - (4) Require the same or similar monitoring; and
  - (5) Are more appropriately controlled under a general permit than under individual permits.
- b. Each general permit issued by the department must:
- (1) Be adopted as an administrative rule in accordance with Iowa Code chapter 17A, the Administrative Procedure Act. Each proposed permit will be accompanied by a fact sheet setting forth the principal facts and methodologies considered during permit development,
  - (2) Correspond to existing geographic or political boundaries, and
  - (3) Be identified in 567—64.15(455B).

c. If an NPDES permit is required for an activity covered by a general permit, the applicant may seek either general permit coverage or an individual permit. Procedures and requirements for obtaining an individual NPDES permit are detailed in 64.3(4)“a.” Procedures for filing a Notice of Intent for coverage under a general permit are described in 567—64.6(455B) “Completing a Notice of Intent for Coverage Under a General Permit.”

**64.4(3) Effect of a permit.**



*a.* Except for any toxic effluent standards and prohibitions imposed under Section 307 of the Act and standards for sewage sludge use or disposal under Section 405(d) of the Act, compliance with a permit during its term constitutes compliance, for purposes of enforcement, with Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 318, 403 and 405(a)-(b) of the Act, and equivalent limitations and standards set out in 567—Chapters 61 and 62. However, a permit may be terminated during its term for cause as set forth in 64.3(11). Compliance with a permit condition which implements a particular standard for sewage sludge use or disposal shall be an affirmative defense in any enforcement action brought for a violation of that standard for sewage sludge use or disposal.

*b.* The issuance of a permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 8520B, IAB 2/10/10, effective 3/17/10; ARC 9365B, IAB 2/9/11, effective 3/30/11; ARC 2482C, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 3786C, IAB 5/9/18, effective 7/1/18; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

**567—64.5(455B) Notice and public participation in the individual NPDES permit process.**

**64.5(1) *Formulation of tentative determination.*** The department shall make a tentative determination to issue or deny an operation or NPDES permit for the discharge described in a permit application in advance of the public notice as described in 64.5(2).

*a.* If the tentative determination is to issue an NPDES permit, the department shall prepare a permit rationale for each draft permit pursuant to 64.5(3) and a draft permit. The draft permit shall include the following:

(1) Effluent limitations identified pursuant to 64.7(2) and 64.7(3), for those pollutants proposed to be limited.

(2) If necessary, a proposed schedule of compliance, including interim dates and requirements, identified pursuant to 64.7(4) and 64.7(5), for meeting the effluent limitations and other permit requirements.

(3) Any other special conditions (other than those required in 64.7(7)) which will have a significant impact upon the discharge described in the permit application.

*b.* If the tentative determination is to deny an NPDES permit, the department shall prepare a notice of intent to deny the permit application. The notice of intent to deny an application will be placed on public notice as described in 64.5(2).

*c.* If the tentative determination is to issue an operation permit (non-NPDES permit), the department shall prepare a final permit and transmit the final permit to the applicant. The applicant will have 30 days to appeal the final operation permit.

*d.* If the tentative determination is to deny an operation permit (non-NPDES permit), no public notice is required. The department shall send written notice of the denial to the applicant. The applicant will have 30 days to appeal the denial.

**64.5(2) *Public notice for individual NPDES permits.***

*a.* Prior to the issuance of an NPDES permit, a major NPDES permit amendment, or the denial of a permit application for an NPDES permit, public notice shall be circulated in a manner designed to inform interested and potentially interested persons of the proposed discharge and of the tentative determination to issue or deny an NPDES permit for the proposed discharge.

(1) The public notice shall be transmitted by the department to the following persons:

1. The applicant;

2. Any other federal or state agency which has issued or is required to issue an NPDES permit for the same facility or activity, including EPA;

3. Federal and state agencies with jurisdiction over fish, shellfish, and wildlife resources, state historic preservation officers, and affected states (the term “state” includes Indian tribes treated as states);

4. Any state agency responsible for the development of an areawide waste treatment management plan or a water quality standards and implementation plan under CWA Section 208(b)(2), 208(b)(4) or 303(e);

5. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service;

6. Any user identified in the permit application of a privately owned treatment works;
7. Any unit of local government having jurisdiction over the area where the facility is located; and
8. Each state agency having any authority under state law with respect to the construction or operation of such facility.

(2) The public notice shall be transmitted by the department to any person upon request.

(3) Any person or group may request to receive copies of all public notices concerning the tentative determinations with respect to the permit applications within the state or within a certain geographical area. The department shall transmit a copy of all public notices to such persons or groups.

(4) The department shall periodically notify the public of the opportunity to receive notices. The director may update the notice distribution list from time to time by requesting written indication of continued interest from those listed. The director may delete from the list the name of any person or group who fails to respond to such a request.

b. The director may publish all notices of activities described in paragraph "a" of this subrule to the department's website. If this option is selected for a draft permit, the director must post the draft permit and permit rationale on the website for the duration of the public comment period.

c. The department shall provide a period of not less than 30 days following the date of the public notice during which time interested persons may submit their written views on the tentative determinations with respect to the permit application and request a public hearing pursuant to 64.5(6). Written comments may be submitted by paper or electronic means. All pertinent comments submitted during the 30-day comment period shall be retained by the department and considered by the director in the formulation of the director's final determinations with respect to the permit application. The period for comment may be extended at the discretion of the department. Pertinent and significant comments received during either the original comment period or an extended comment period shall be responded to in a responsiveness summary pursuant to 64.5(8).

d. The contents of the public notice of a draft NPDES permit, a major permit amendment, or the denial of a permit application for an NPDES permit shall include at least the following:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the department.

(2) The name and address of each applicant.

(3) A brief description of each applicant's activities or operations which result in the discharge described in the permit application (e.g., municipal waste treatment plant, corn wet milling plant, or meat packing plant).

(4) The name of the waterway to which each discharge of the applicant is made and a short description of the location of each discharge of the applicant on the waterway.

(5) A statement of the department's tentative determination to issue, amend, or deny an NPDES permit for the discharge or discharges described in the permit application.

(6) A brief description of the procedures for the formulation of final determinations, including the 30-day comment period required by paragraph "c" of this subrule, procedures for requesting a public hearing and any other means by which interested persons may influence or comment upon those determinations.

(7) The address, telephone number, email address, and website of places at which interested persons may obtain further information, request a copy of the tentative determination and any associated documents prepared pursuant to 64.5(1), request a copy of the permit rationale described in 64.5(3), and inspect and copy permit forms and related documents.

e. No public notice is required for a minor permit amendment, including but not limited to an amendment to correct typographical errors, include more frequent monitoring requirements, revise interim compliance schedule dates, change an owner or facility name or address, include a local pretreatment program, or remove a point source outfall that does not result in the discharge of pollutants from other outfalls.

f. No public notice is required when a request for a permit amendment or a request for a termination of a permit is denied. The department shall send written notice of the denial to the requester and the permittee only. No public notice is required if an applicant withdraws a permit application.

**64.5(3) Permit rationales and notices of intent to deny.**

a. When the department has made a determination to issue an NPDES permit as described in 64.5(1), the department shall prepare and, upon request, shall send to any person a permit rationale with respect to the application described in the public notice. The contents of such permit rationales shall include at least the following information:

- (1) A detailed description of the location of the discharge described in the permit application.
- (2) A quantitative description of the discharge described in the permit application which includes:
  1. The average daily discharge in pounds per day of any pollutants which are subject to limitations or prohibitions under 64.7(2) or Section 301, 302, 306 or 307 of the Act and regulations published thereunder; and
  2. For thermal discharges subject to limitation under the Act, the average and maximum summer and winter discharge temperatures in degrees Fahrenheit.
- (3) The tentative determinations required under 64.5(1).
- (4) A brief citation, including a brief identification of the uses for which the receiving waters have been classified, of the water quality standards applicable to the receiving waters and effluent standards and limitations applicable to the proposed discharge.
- (5) An explanation of the principal facts and the significant factual, legal, methodological, and policy questions considered in the preparation of the draft permit.
- (6) Any calculations or other necessary explanation of the derivation of effluent limitations.

b. When the department has made a determination to deny an application for an NPDES permit as described in 64.5(1), the department shall prepare and, upon request, shall send to any person a notice of intent to deny with respect to the application described in the public notice. The contents of such notice of intent to deny shall include at least the following information:

- (1) A detailed description of the location of the discharge described in the permit application; and
- (2) A description of the reasons supporting the tentative decision to deny the permit application.

c. When the department has made a determination to issue an operation permit as described in 64.5(1), the department shall prepare a short description of the waste disposal system and the reasons supporting the decision to issue an operation permit. The description shall be sent to the operation permit applicant upon request.

d. When the department has made a determination to deny an application for an operation permit as described in 64.5(1), the department shall prepare and send written notice of the denial to the applicant only. The written denial shall include a description of the reasons supporting the decision to deny the permit application.

e. Upon request, the department shall add the name of any person or group to a distribution list to receive copies of permit rationales and notices of intent to deny and shall send a copy of all permit rationales and notices of intent to deny to such persons or groups.

**64.5(4) Notice to other government agencies.** Prior to the issuance of an NPDES permit, the department shall notify other appropriate government agencies of each complete application for an NPDES permit and shall provide such agencies an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations. Notifications may be distributed and written views or recommendations may be submitted by paper or electronic means. Procedures for such notification shall include the procedures of paragraphs "a" to "f."

a. At the time of issuance of public notice pursuant to 64.5(2), the department shall transmit the public notice to any other state whose waters may be affected by the issuance of the NPDES permit. Each affected state shall be afforded an opportunity to submit written recommendations to the department and to the regional administrator which the director may incorporate into the permit if issued. Should the director fail to incorporate any written recommendation thus received, the director shall provide to the affected state or states and to the regional administrator a written explanation of the reasons for failing to accept any written recommendation.

b. At the time of issuance of public notice pursuant to 64.5(2), the department shall send the public notice for proposed discharges (other than minor discharges) into navigable waters to the appropriate district engineer of the army corps of engineers.

(1) The department and the district engineer for each corps of engineers district within the state may arrange for: notice to the district engineer of minor discharges; waiver by the district engineer of the right to receive public notices with respect to classes, types, and sizes within any category of point sources and with respect to discharges to particular navigable waters or parts thereof; and any procedures for the transmission of forms, period of comment by the district engineer (e.g., 30 days), and for objections of the district engineer.

(2) A copy of any written agreement between the department and a district engineer shall be forwarded to the regional administrator and shall be available to the public for inspection and copying in accordance with 567—Chapter 2.

*c.* Upon request, the department shall send the public notice to any other federal, state, or local agency, or any affected county, and provide such agencies an opportunity to respond, comment, or request a public hearing pursuant to 64.5(6).

*d.* The department shall send the public notice for any proposed NPDES permit within the geographical area of a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the Act (33 U.S.C.1288).

*e.* The department shall send the public notice to the local board of health for the purpose of assisting the applicant in coordinating the applicable requirements of the Act and Iowa Code chapter 455B with any applicable requirements of the local board of health.

*f.* Upon request, the department shall provide any of the entities listed in 64.5(4) “a” through “e” with a copy of the permit rationale, permit application, or proposed permit prepared pursuant to 64.5(1).

**64.5(5) *Public access to NPDES information.*** The records of the department connected with NPDES permits are available for public inspection and copying to the extent provided in 567—Chapter 2.

**64.5(6) *Public hearings on proposed NPDES permits.*** The applicant, any affected state, the regional administrator, or any interested agency, person or group of persons may request or petition for a public hearing with respect to an NPDES application. Any such request shall clearly state issues and topics to be addressed at the hearing. Any such request or petition for public hearing must be filed with the director within the 30-day period prescribed in 64.5(2) “c” and shall indicate the interest of the party filing such request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. The director shall hold an informal and noncontested case hearing if there is a significant public interest (including the filing of requests or petitions for such hearing) in holding such a hearing. Frivolous or insubstantial requests for hearing may be denied by the director. Instances of doubt should be resolved in favor of holding the hearing. Any hearing held pursuant to this subrule shall be held in the geographical area of the proposed discharge when possible, or other appropriate area at the discretion of the director. Web-based hearings may also be held at the discretion of the director. In addition, any hearing held pursuant to this subrule may, as appropriate, consider related groups of permit applications.

**64.5(7) *Public notice of public hearings on proposed NPDES permits.***

*a.* Public notice of any hearing held pursuant to 64.5(6) shall be circulated at least as widely as was the notice of the tentative determinations with respect to the permit application. Notice pursuant to this paragraph shall be made at least 30 days in advance of the hearing.

(1) Notice shall be transmitted to all persons and government agencies which received a copy of the notice for the permit application; and

(2) Notice shall be transmitted to any person or group upon request.

*b.* The contents of public notice of any hearing held pursuant to 64.5(6) shall include at least the following:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the department;

(2) The name and address of each applicant whose application will be considered at the hearing;

(3) The name of the water body to which each discharge is made and a short description of the location of each discharge to the water body;

(4) A brief reference to the public notice issued for each NPDES application, including the date of issuance;

(5) Information regarding the time and location for the hearing;

(6) The purpose of the hearing;

- (7) A concise statement of the issues raised by the person or persons requesting the hearing;
- (8) The address, telephone number, email address, and website where interested persons may obtain further information, request a copy of the draft NPDES permit prepared pursuant to 64.5(1), request a copy of the permit rationale prepared pursuant to 64.5(3), and inspect and copy permit forms and related documents;
- (9) A brief description of the nature of the hearing, including the rules and procedures to be followed; and
- (10) The final date for submission of comments regarding the tentative determinations with respect to the permit application.

**64.5(8) *Response to comments.*** At the time a final NPDES permit is issued, the director shall issue a response to significant and pertinent comments in the form of a responsiveness summary. A copy of the responsiveness summary shall be sent to the permit applicant, and the document shall be made available to the public upon request. The responsiveness summary shall:

- a. Specify which provisions, if any, of the draft permit have been changed in the final permit decision and the reasons for the changes; and
- b. Briefly describe and respond to all significant and pertinent comments on the draft permit raised during the public comment period provided for in the public notice or during any hearing. Comments on a draft permit may be submitted by paper or electronic means or orally at a public hearing.

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 0529C, IAB 12/12/12, effective 1/16/13; ARC 2482C, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

#### **567—64.6(455B) Completing a Notice of Intent for coverage under a general permit.**

**64.6(1) *Contents of a complete Notice of Intent.*** An applicant proposing to conduct activities covered by a general permit shall file a complete NOI by submitting to the department materials required in paragraphs “a” to “c” of this subrule, as applicable. An NOI is not required for discharges authorized under General Permit No. 6 or No. 7, for certain discharges under General Permit No. 8, or for certain discharges under General Permit No. 9.

- a. *Notice of Intent (NOI) Form.* Electronic NOI forms provided by the department must be completed in full on the department’s website. Paper NOI forms, when provided, must be completed in full.
- b. *General permit fee.* The applicable general permit fee according to the schedule in 567—64.16(455B) is payable to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.
- c. *Public notification.* The public notification requirements only apply to General Permits No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3.

(1) Applicants for General Permits No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 must demonstrate that a public notice was published in at least one newspaper with the largest circulation in the area in which the facility is located or the activity will occur.

(2) The newspaper notice shall, at the minimum, contain the following information:

##### PUBLIC NOTICE OF STORM WATER DISCHARGE

The (applicant name) plans to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under NPDES General Permit (select the appropriate general permit—No. 1 “Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity”, General Permit No. 2 “Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities” or General Permit No. 3 “Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Asphalt Plants, Concrete Batch Plants, Rock Crushing Plants, and Construction Sand and Gravel Facilities”). The storm water discharge will be from (description of industrial activity) located in (¼ section, township, range, county). Storm water will be discharged from (number) point source(s) and will be discharged to the following streams: (stream name(s)).

Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Discharge Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 502 East 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the above address after it has been received by the department.

**64.6(2) Authorization to discharge under a general permit.** Upon the submittal of a complete NOI in accordance with 64.6(1) and 64.3(4) “b,” the applicant is authorized to discharge after the department has determined that the contents of the NOI satisfy the requirements of 567—Chapter 64, evaluated the NOI, and determined that the proposed discharge meets the requirements of the general permit. The applicant will receive notification from the department of coverage under the general permit. If any of the items required for filing an NOI specified in 64.6(1) are missing, the department will consider the application incomplete and will notify the applicant of the incomplete items. If the discharge described in the NOI does not meet the requirements of the general permit, the NOI may be denied. The department will notify applicants of denial within 30 days.

Authorization to discharge is automatic only for the general permits that do not require an NOI under 64.3(4), provided the discharge is a covered activity and the permittee complies with all applicable permit requirements.

**64.6(3) General permit suspension or revocation.** In addition to the causes for suspension or revocation which are listed in 64.3(11), the director may suspend or revoke coverage under a general permit issued to a facility or a class of facilities for the following reasons and require the applicant to apply for an individual NPDES permit in accordance with 64.3(4) “a”:

- a. The discharge would not comply with Iowa’s water quality standards pursuant to 567—Chapter 61, or
- b. The department finds that the activities associated with an NOI filed with the department do not meet the conditions of the applicable general permit, or
- c. The department finds that any discharge covered under a general permit is not managed in a manner consistent with the conditions specified in the applicable general permit.

The department will notify the affected discharger and establish a deadline, not longer than one year, for submitting an individual permit application.

**64.6(4) Eligibility for individual NPDES permit holders.** A person holding an individual NPDES permit for an activity covered by a general permit may apply for coverage under a general permit by filing an NOI according to procedures described in 64.3(4) “b” and 567—64.6(455B). In addition to these requirements, the permittee must submit a written request, with the NOI, to close or revoke the individual NPDES permit or to amend the individual NPDES permit to remove the general permit-covered activity.

- a. Upon receipt of a complete NOI and request for closure, revocation or amendment of an individual NPDES permit, the applicant shall be authorized to discharge under the general permit in accordance with 64.6(2). The applicant will receive notification by the department of coverage under the general permit and of the closure, revocation or amendment of the individual permit.
- b. Authorization to discharge under a general permit that does not require an NOI will be automatic in accordance with 64.6(2) and shall commence upon completion of individual NPDES permit closure, revocation, or amendment.
- c. Individual NPDES permit amendments under this subrule shall follow the applicable public notice procedures in 567—64.5(455B).

**64.6(5) Filing a Notice of Discontinuation.** A notice to discontinue discharge associated with an activity covered by a general permit shall be made electronically or in writing to the department in accordance with the conditions established in each general permit.

The notice of discontinuation shall contain the following:

- a. The name of the facility to which the permit was issued,
- b. The general permit number and permit authorization number,
- c. The date the permitted activity was, or will be, discontinued, and
- d. A signed certification in accordance with the requirements in the general permit.

**64.6(6) Transfer of ownership—construction activity part of a larger common plan of development.** For construction activity which is part of a larger common plan of development, such as a housing or commercial development project, in the event a permittee transfers ownership of all or any part of property subject to NPDES General Permit No. 2, both the permittee and transferee shall be responsible for compliance with the provisions of the general permit for that portion of the project which has been transferred, including when the transferred property is less than one acre in area, provided that:

*a.* The transferee is notified in writing of the existence and location of the general permit and pollution prevention plan, and of the transferee's duty to comply, and proof of such notice is included with the notice to the department of the transfer.

*b.* If the transferee agrees, in writing, to become the sole responsible permittee for the property which has been transferred, then the transferee shall be solely responsible for compliance with the provisions of the general permit for the transferred property.

*c.* If the transferee agrees, in writing, to obtain coverage under NPDES General Permit No. 2 for the property which has been transferred, then the transferee is required to obtain coverage under NPDES General Permit No. 2 for the transferred property. After the transferee has agreed, in writing, to obtain coverage under NPDES General Permit No. 2 for the transferred property, the authorization issued under NPDES General Permit No. 2 to the transferor for the transferred property shall be considered by the department as not providing NPDES permit coverage for the transferred property and the transferor's authorization issued under NPDES General Permit No. 2 for, and only for, the transferred property shall be deemed by the department as being discontinued without further action of the transferor.

*d.* All notices as described in this subrule shall contain the name of the development as submitted to the department in the original Notice of Intent and as modified by any subsequent written notices of name changes submitted to the department, the authorization number assigned to the authorization by the department, the legal description of the transferred property including lot number, if any, and any other information necessary to precisely locate the transferred property and to establish the legality of the document.

[ARC 8520B, IAB 2/10/10, effective 3/17/10; ARC 9365B, IAB 2/9/11, effective 3/30/11; ARC 1337C, IAB 2/19/14, effective 3/26/14; ARC 2482C, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 3786C, IAB 5/9/18, effective 7/1/18; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

#### **567—64.7(455B) Terms and conditions of NPDES permits.**

**64.7(1) Prohibited discharges.** No NPDES permit may authorize any of the discharges prohibited by 567—62.1(455B).

**64.7(2) Application of effluent, pretreatment and water quality standards and other requirements.** Each NPDES permit shall include any of the following that is applicable:

*a.* An effluent limitation guideline promulgated by the administrator under Sections 301 and 304 of the Act and adopted by reference by the commission in 567—62.4(455B).

*b.* A standard of performance for a new source promulgated by the administrator under Section 306 of the Act and adopted by reference by the commission in 567—62.4(455B).

*c.* An effluent standard, effluent prohibition or pretreatment standard promulgated by the administrator under Section 307 of the Act and adopted by reference by the commission in 567—62.4(455B) or 567—62.5(455B).

*d.* A water quality related effluent limitation established by the administrator pursuant to Section 302 of the Act.

*e.* Prior to promulgation by the administrator of applicable effluent and pretreatment standards under Sections 301, 302, 306, and 307 of the Act, such conditions as the director determines are necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act.

*f.* Any other limitation, including those:

(1) Necessary to meet water quality standards, treatment or pretreatment standards, or schedules of compliance established pursuant to any Iowa law or regulation, or to implement the antidegradation policy in 567—subrule 61.2(2); or

(2) Necessary to meet any other federal law or regulation; or

(3) Required to implement any applicable water quality standards; or

(4) Any legally applicable requirement necessary to implement total maximum daily loads established pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Act and incorporated in the continuing planning process approved under Section 303(e) of the Act and any regulations and guidelines issued pursuant thereto.

(5) Any limitation necessary to comply with the antidegradation policy requirements of 567—subrule 61.2(2) implemented according to procedures hereby incorporated by reference and known as the "Iowa Antidegradation Implementation Procedure," effective

August 12, 2016. This document may be obtained on the department's website at: [www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Water-Quality-Standards](http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Water-Quality-Standards).

g. Limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters which the director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any water quality standard, including narrative criteria, in 567—Chapter 61. When the permitting authority determines that a discharge causes, has the reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an in-stream excursion of the water quality standard for an individual pollutant, the permit must contain effluent limits for that pollutant.

h. Any more stringent legally applicable requirements necessary to comply with a plan approved pursuant to Section 208(b) of the Act.

In any case where an NPDES permit applies to effluent standards and limitations described in paragraph “a,” “b,” “c,” “d,” “e,” “f,” “g,” or “h,” the director must state that the discharge authorized by the permit will not violate applicable water quality standards and must have prepared some verification of that statement. In any case where an NPDES permit applies any more stringent effluent limitation, described in 64.7(2) “f”(1) or “g,” based upon applicable water quality standards, a waste load allocation must be prepared to ensure that the discharge authorized by the permit is consistent with applicable water quality standards.

**64.7(3) Effluent limitations in issued NPDES permits.** In the application of effluent standards, and limitations, water quality standards, and other legally applicable requirements, pursuant to 64.7(2), the director shall, for each issued NPDES permit, specify average and maximum daily quantitative limitations for the level of pollutants in the authorized discharge in terms of weight (except pH, temperature, radiation, and any other pollutants not appropriately expressed by weight). The director may, in addition to the specification of daily quantitative limitations by weight, specify other limitations such as average or maximum concentration limits, for the level of pollutants authorized in the discharge.

[COMMENT. The manner in which effluent limitations are expressed will depend upon the nature of the discharge. Continuous discharges shall be limited by daily loading figures and, where appropriate, may be limited as to concentration or discharge rate (e.g., for toxic or highly variable continuous discharges). Batch discharges should be more particularly described and limited in terms of (i) frequency (e.g., to occur not more than once every three weeks), (ii) total weight (e.g., not to exceed 300 pounds per batch discharge), (iii) maximum rate of discharge of pollutants during the batch discharge (e.g., not to exceed 2 pounds per minute), and (iv) prohibition or limitation by weight, concentration, or other appropriate measure of specified pollutants (e.g., shall not contain at any time more than 0.1 ppm zinc or more than ¼ pound of zinc in any batch discharge). Other intermittent discharges, such as recirculation blowdown, should be particularly limited to comply with any applicable water quality standards and effluent standards and limitations.]

**64.7(4) Schedules of compliance in issued NPDES permits.** The director shall follow the following procedure in setting schedules in NPDES permit conditions to achieve compliance with applicable effluent standards and limitations, water quality standards, and other legally applicable requirements.

a. With respect to any discharge which is not in compliance with applicable effluent standards and limitations, applicable water quality standards, or other legally applicable requirements listed in 64.7(2) “f” and 64.7(2) “g,” the permittee shall be required to take specific steps to achieve compliance with: applicable effluent standards and limitations; if more stringent, water quality standards; or if more stringent, legally applicable requirements listed in 64.7(2) “f” and 64.7(2) “g.” In the absence of any legally applicable schedule of compliance, such steps shall be achieved in the shortest, reasonable period of time, such period to be consistent with the guidelines and requirements of the Act.

b. In any case where the period of time for compliance specified in paragraph 64.7(4) “a” exceeds one year, a schedule of compliance shall be specified in the permit which shall set forth interim requirements and the dates for their achievement; in no event shall more than one year elapse between interim dates. If the time necessary for completion of the interim requirements (such as the construction of a treatment facility) is more than one year and is not readily divided into stages for completion, interim dates shall be specified for the submission of reports of progress toward completion of the interim requirement.



[COMMENT. Certain interim requirements such as the submission of preliminary or final plans often require less than one year, and thus a shorter interval should be specified. Other requirements such as the construction of treatment facilities may require several years for completion and may not readily subdivide into one-year intervals. Long-term interim requirements should nonetheless be subdivided into intervals not longer than one year at which the permittee is required to report progress to the director pursuant to 64.7(4)“c.”]

*c.* Either before or up to 14 days following each interim date and the final date of compliance the permittee shall provide the department with written notice of the permittee’s compliance or noncompliance with the interim or final requirement.

*d.* On the last day of the months of February, May, August, and November, the director shall transmit to the regional administrator a list of all instances, as of 30 days prior to the date of such report, of failure or refusal of a permittee to comply with an interim or final requirement or to notify the department of compliance or noncompliance with each interim or final requirement (as required pursuant to paragraph “c” of this subrule). Such list shall be available to the public for inspection and copying and shall contain at least the following information with respect to each instance of noncompliance:

(1) Name and address of each noncomplying permittee.

(2) A short description of each instance of noncompliance (e.g., failure to submit preliminary plans, two-week delay in commencement of construction of treatment facility; failure to notify of compliance with interim requirement to complete construction by June 30).

(3) A short description of any actions or proposed actions by the permittee to comply or by the director to enforce compliance with the interim or final requirement.

(4) Any details which tend to explain or mitigate an instance of noncompliance with an interim or final requirement (e.g., construction delayed due to materials shortage, plan approval delayed by objections).

*e.* If a permittee fails or refuses to comply with an interim or final requirement in an NPDES permit such noncompliance shall constitute a violation of the permit for which the director may, pursuant to 567—Chapters 7 and 60, modify, suspend or revoke the permit or take direct enforcement action.

**64.7(5) Schedules of compliance in issued NPDES permits for disadvantaged communities.** If compliance with federal regulations, applicable requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, or an order of the department will result in substantial and widespread economic and social impact (SWESI) to the ratepayers and the affected community, the director may establish in an NPDES permit a schedule of compliance that will result in an improvement of water quality and reasonable progress toward complying with the applicable requirements but does not result in SWESI. Schedules of compliance established under this subrule are intended to result in compliance with the applicable federal and state regulations and requirements by the regulated entity and the affected community.

*a. Disadvantaged community status.* The director shall find that a regulated entity and the affected community are a disadvantaged community by evaluating all of the following:

(1) The ability of the regulated entity and the affected community to pay for a project based on the ratio of the total annual project costs per household to median household income (MHI),

(2) MHI in the community and the unemployment rate of the county in which the community is located, and

(3) The outstanding debt of the system and the bond rating of the community.

*b. Disadvantaged community analysis (DCA).* A regulated entity or affected community must submit a DCA to the director to be considered for disadvantaged status.

(1) When new requirements in a proposed or reissued NPDES permit may result in SWESI, a DCA may be submitted by any of the following:

1. A wastewater disposal system owned by a municipal corporation or other public body created by or under Iowa law and having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes or other wastes, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the Act (a POTW);

2. A wastewater disposal system for the treatment or disposal of domestic sewage which is not a private sewage disposal system and which is not owned by a city, a sanitary sewer district, or a designated

and approved management agency under Section 208 of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1288) (a semipublic system);  
or

3. Any other owner of a wastewater disposal system that is not a private sewage disposal system and does not discharge industrial wastes. “Private sewage disposal system” and “industrial waste” are defined in rule 567—60.2(455B).

(2) A DCA may be submitted prior to the issuance of an initial NPDES permit if the facility does not discharge industrial wastes and is not a new source or new discharger. “New source” and “new discharger” are defined in rule 567—60.2(455B).

(3) A DCA may be submitted by the entities noted in subparagraph 64.7(5)“b”(1) above for consideration of a disadvantaged community loan interest rate under the clean water state revolving fund, independent of the requirements in a proposed or reissued NPDES permit.

*c. Contents of a DCA.*

(1) A DCA must contain all of the following:

1. Proposed total annual project costs as defined in paragraph 64.7(5)“d”;
2. The number of households in the affected community or, if the entity is not serving households, the number of ratepayers;
3. A description of the bond rating of the affected community over the last year, if available;
4. The user rates, as follows:
  - If the DCA is submitted by or for a municipality or other community, the current sewer rate ordinances, including the sewer rates of any industrial users;
  - If the DCA is submitted by or for a water treatment facility, the water rate schedules or tables;

or

- If the DCA is submitted by or for an entity other than a municipality, community, or water treatment facility, the monthly ratepayer charge for wastewater treatment;

5. An explanation of why the regulated entity or affected community believes that compliance with the proposed requirements will result in SWESI.

(2) If the DCA is submitted by or for an entity other than a municipality, community, or water treatment facility, the DCA must also contain either:

1. For entities with more than ten households or ratepayers, the median household or ratepayer income, as determined by an income survey conducted by the regulated entity (the survey must be included in the DCA); or
2. For entities with ten or fewer households or ratepayers, an estimate of median household or ratepayer income.

*d. Definition of total annual project costs.* “Total annual project costs” means the current costs of wastewater treatment in the community (if any) plus the future costs of proposed wastewater system improvements that will meet or exceed all applicable federal regulations, requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, or requirements of an order of the department. Total annual project costs shall include any current and proposed facility operation and maintenance costs and any existing (outstanding) and proposed system debt, as expressed in current and proposed sewer rates. The costs of the proposed wastewater treatment shall assume a 30-year loan period at an interest rate equal to the current state revolving fund interest rate. Awarded grant funding must be subtracted from the total annual project costs.

The formula for the calculation of total annual project costs for a regulated entity and affected community is: total annual project costs = [(Estimated costs to design and build proposed project - Awarded grant funding) amortized over 30 years] + Current annual system budget (if any), including operation and maintenance (O&M) and existing debt service + Future annual O&M costs.

*e. Disadvantaged community matrix (DCM).* The department hereby incorporates by reference “Disadvantaged Community Matrix,” DNR Form 542-1246. This document may be obtained on the department’s website.

Upon receipt of a complete DCA, the director shall use the DCM to evaluate the disadvantaged status of the community. The DCM shall be used to evaluate DCAs submitted in accordance with 64.7(5)“b.” Compliance with the applicable federal regulations, requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and

64, or an order of the department shall be considered to result in SWESI, and the regulated entity and affected community shall be considered a disadvantaged community, if the point total derived from the DCM is equal to or greater than 12. The following data sources shall be used to derive the point total in the DCM:

- (1) The total annual project costs as stated in the DCA;
  - (2) The number of households or ratepayers in a community as stated in the DCA;
  - (3) The bond rating of the community, if available, as stated in the DCA;
  - (4) The MHI of either:
    1. The community, as found in the most recent American Community Survey or United States Census or as stated in an income survey that is conducted by the regulated entity or community; or
    2. The ratepayer group, as stated in an income survey that is conducted by the regulated entity;
- and
- (5) The unemployment rate of the county where the community is located and of the state as found in the most recent Iowa Workforce Information Network unemployment data.

The ratio of the total annual project costs per household or per ratepayer to MHI shall be calculated in the DCM as follows: The total annual project costs shall be divided by the number of households or ratepayers to obtain the costs per household or per ratepayer, and the costs per household or per ratepayer shall be divided by the MHI to obtain the ratio.

*f. Ratio.* The director shall not consider a regulated entity or affected community a disadvantaged community if the ratio of compliance costs to MHI is less than 1 percent. The director shall consider a regulated entity or affected community a disadvantaged community if the ratio of compliance costs to MHI is greater than or equal to 2 percent. If the ratio of compliance costs to MHI is greater than or equal to 1 percent and less than 2 percent, the director shall use the DCM to determine if the community is disadvantaged. The ratio of compliance costs to MHI shall be the ratio of the total annual project costs per household to MHI as calculated in the DCM.

*g. Compliance schedule for a disadvantaged community.* A schedule of compliance established in an NPDES permit for a disadvantaged community as a result of SWESI may contain one or two parts as necessary to comply with the applicable federal regulations and requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64.

- (1) The first part of a schedule of compliance for a disadvantaged community shall encompass one five-year NPDES permit cycle and shall require the permit holder to submit an alternatives report, an alternatives implementation compliance plan (AICP), and annual reports of progress that contain brief updates regarding the completion of the alternatives report and the AICP.

1. Alternatives report. The alternatives report must detail the alternative pollution control measures that will be investigated and contain an examination of all other appropriate measures that may achieve compliance with applicable federal regulations, requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, or an order of the department without creating SWESI. The alternatives report must describe which measures will be evaluated for feasibility and affordability during the next portion of the compliance schedule. Alternative pollution control measures may include, but are not limited to, facility upgrades, construction of a new facility, relocation of the discharge point(s), regionalization, or outfall consolidation. Other appropriate measures may include, but are not limited to, mixing zone studies, consideration of seasonal limitations or site-specific data, alteration of current facility operations, intermittent discharges, source reduction, effluent recycling or reuse, or renegotiation of treatment agreements. The alternatives report must also include a plan for pursuing funding options, including grants and low-interest loans. The alternatives report shall be submitted no later than two years after permit issuance.

2. Alternatives implementation compliance plan (AICP). The AICP shall include the results of the investigation detailed in the alternatives report, a description of any feasible and affordable alternative(s) that will be implemented, a schedule of the time necessary to implement the alternative(s), and an updated DCA. The AICP shall be submitted no later than 4½ years after permit issuance.

- (2) If the entity or community continues to qualify as disadvantaged according to the DCM evaluation based on the DCA submitted with the AICP, the entity or community may receive a

second schedule of compliance as specified in this subrule. The second schedule of compliance for a disadvantaged community may contain either the implementation schedule from the AICP or a schedule for submittal of a future compliance plan (FCP).

1. AICP implementation schedule. If the AICP proposes a schedule for implementation of one or more feasible alternatives, the proposed schedule shall be included in the reissued NPDES permit for the disadvantaged community.

2. Future compliance plan (FCP). The submittal of an FCP will be necessary only if the AICP concludes that the disadvantaged community cannot feasibly implement any alternatives and if the community is still disadvantaged according to the updated information in the DCA submitted with the AICP. The FCP shall detail how the disadvantaged community will meet the applicable federal regulations, requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, or an order of the department and the period necessary to do so. An FCP shall review the types of technology capable of treating the pollutant of concern, as well as the costs of installing and operating each type of technology. All technically feasible alternatives shall be explored. The FCP shall be submitted no later than three years after permit issuance. A schedule of compliance requiring the submittal of an FCP shall also require the submittal of annual reports of progress that contain updated financial information, an updated DCA, and a brief update regarding the completion or implementation of the FCP. If the DCM evaluation determines that an entity or community is no longer disadvantaged based on the most recent DCA, the NPDES permit may be amended to change the schedule of compliance.

3. Schedule extension. The second part of a schedule of compliance for a disadvantaged community may be extended at the discretion of the director.

(3) Schedules of compliance issued in accordance with this subrule shall comply with paragraphs 64.7(4) “b” through “e.”

**64.7(6) *Disadvantaged unsewered communities.*** If compliance with applicable federal regulations, requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, or an order of the department will result in substantial and widespread economic and social impact (SWESI) to the ratepayers of an unsewered community, the director may negotiate a compliance agreement that will result in an improvement of water quality and reasonable progress toward complying with the applicable requirements but does not result in SWESI.

*a. Disadvantaged unsewered community status.* The director shall find that an unsewered community is a disadvantaged unsewered community by evaluating all of the following:

- (1) The ability of the unsewered community to pay for a project based on the ratio of the total annual project costs per household to MHI,
- (2) The unemployment rate in the county where the unsewered community is located, and
- (3) The MHI of the unsewered community.

*b. Disadvantaged unsewered community analysis (DUCA).* An unsewered community must submit a DUCA to the director to be considered for disadvantaged unsewered community status. Only unsewered communities may submit a DUCA under this subrule. For the purposes of this subrule, an unsewered community is defined as a grouping of ten or more residential houses with a density of one house or more per acre and with either no wastewater treatment or inadequate wastewater treatment. An entity defined in rule 567—60.2(455B) as a private sewage disposal system may not submit a DUCA or qualify for a disadvantaged unsewered community compliance agreement under paragraph 64.7(6) “g.”

(1) An unsewered community may submit a DUCA to the director prior to the issuance of or amendment to an administrative order with requirements that could result in SWESI and that are based on applicable federal regulations, requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, or an order of the department.

(2) A DUCA may also be submitted for consideration of a disadvantaged community loan interest rate under the clean water state revolving fund, independent of an administrative order.

*c. Contents of a DUCA.* A DUCA must contain all of the following:

- (1) Proposed total annual project costs as defined in paragraph 64.7(6) “d”;
- (2) The number of households in the unsewered community and source of household information;
- (3) Total amount of any awarded grant funding; and

(4) An explanation of why the unsewered community believes that compliance with the proposed requirements will result in SWESI.

If no MHI information is available for the unsewered community, the community should conduct a rate survey to determine the MHI. The survey must be attached to the DCA.

*d. Definition of total annual project costs.* “Total annual project costs” means the future costs of proposed wastewater system installation or improvements that will meet or exceed all applicable federal regulations, requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, or requirements of an order of the department. Total annual project costs shall include the proposed facility operation and maintenance (O&M) costs and the proposed debt of the system as expressed in the proposed sewer rates. The costs of the proposed wastewater treatment shall assume a 30-year loan period at an interest rate equal to the current state revolving fund interest rate. Awarded grant funding must be subtracted from the total annual project costs.

The formula for the calculation of total annual project costs for an unsewered community is: total annual project costs = [(Estimated costs to design and build proposed project - Awarded grant funding) amortized over 30 years] + Future annual O&M costs.

*e. Disadvantaged unsewered community matrix (DUCM).* The department hereby incorporates by reference “Disadvantaged Unsewered Community Matrix,” DNR Form 542-1247. This document may be obtained on the department’s website.

Upon receipt of a complete DUCA, the director shall use the DUCM to evaluate the disadvantaged status of the unsewered community. The DUCM shall be used to evaluate DUCAs submitted in accordance with 64.7(6)“b.” Compliance with applicable federal regulations, requirements in 567—Chapters 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64, or an order of the department shall be considered to result in SWESI, and the unsewered community shall be considered a disadvantaged unsewered community, if the point total derived from the DUCM is equal to or greater than 10. The following data sources shall be used to derive the point total in the DUCM:

- (1) The total annual project costs as stated in the DUCA;
- (2) The number of households in the unsewered community as stated in the DUCA;
- (3) The MHI of the unsewered community as found in the most recent American Community Survey or United States Census or as stated in an income survey that is conducted by the unsewered community; and

- (4) The unemployment rate of the county where the unsewered community is located and of the state as found in the most recent Iowa Workforce Information Network unemployment data.

The ratio of the total annual project costs per household to MHI shall be calculated in the DUCM as follows: the total annual project costs shall be divided by the number of households in the unsewered community to obtain the costs per household, and the costs per household shall be divided by the MHI to obtain the ratio.

*f. Ratio and other considerations.* The director shall not consider an unsewered community a disadvantaged unsewered community if the ratio of compliance costs to MHI is below 1 percent. The director shall consider an unsewered community a disadvantaged unsewered community if the ratio of compliance costs to MHI is greater than or equal to 2 percent. If the ratio of compliance costs to MHI is greater than or equal to 1 percent, and less than 2 percent, the director shall use the DUCM to determine if the unsewered community is disadvantaged. The ratio of compliance costs to MHI shall be the ratio of the total annual project costs per household to MHI as calculated in the DUCM. The director shall not require installation of a wastewater treatment system by an unsewered community if the director determines that such installation would create SWESI.

*g. Compliance agreement for a disadvantaged unsewered community.* A compliance agreement negotiated with a disadvantaged unsewered community as a result of SWESI shall require the unsewered community to submit an alternatives report and an alternatives implementation compliance plan (AICP).

- (1) Alternatives report. The alternatives report must detail the alternative pollution control measures that will be investigated and contain an examination of all other appropriate measures that may achieve compliance with the water quality standards without creating SWESI. The alternatives report must describe which measures will be evaluated for feasibility and affordability after the

report submittal. Alternative pollution control measures may include, but are not limited to, upgrades of existing infrastructure, construction of a new facility, relocation of the discharge point(s), regionalization, or outfall consolidation. Other appropriate measures may include, but are not limited to, mixing zone studies, consideration of seasonal limitations or site-specific data, alteration of current facility operations, intermittent discharges, source reduction, effluent recycling or reuse, or renegotiation of treatment agreements. The alternatives report shall also include a plan for pursuing funding options, including grants and low-interest loans. The alternatives report shall be submitted no later than two years after an unsewered community has been determined to be a disadvantaged unsewered community.

(2) Alternatives implementation compliance plan (AICP). The AICP shall include the results of the investigation detailed in the alternatives report, a description of any feasible and affordable alternative(s) that will be implemented, a schedule of the time necessary to implement the alternative(s), and an updated DUCA. The AICP shall be submitted no later than 4½ years after an unsewered community has been determined to be a disadvantaged unsewered community.

(3) AICP implementation schedule. If the AICP proposes a schedule for implementation of one or more feasible alternatives, the proposed schedule shall be included in an administrative order between the department and the unsewered community. If the feasible alternative that will be implemented requires a construction permit, an operation permit, or an NPDES permit, the unsewered community shall comply with the rules regarding those permits in this chapter.

(4) Future compliance plan (FCP). The submittal of an FCP will be necessary only if the AICP concludes that the unsewered community cannot feasibly implement any alternatives and if the community is still disadvantaged according to the updated information in the DUCA submitted with the AICP. The FCP shall detail how the unsewered community will meet the water quality standards and the period necessary to do so. An FCP shall review the types of technology capable of treating the pollutant of concern, as well as the costs of installing and operating each type of technology. All technically feasible alternatives shall be explored. The FCP shall be submitted no later than seven years after an unsewered community has been determined to be a disadvantaged unsewered community. An administrative order requiring the submittal of an FCP shall also require the submittal of biennial progress reports that contain an updated DUCA. If the DUCM evaluation determines that an unsewered community is no longer disadvantaged based on the most recent DUCA, the order may be amended at the discretion of the director.

**64.7(7) Other terms and conditions of issued NPDES permits.** Each issued NPDES permit shall provide for and ensure the following:

a. That all discharges authorized by the NPDES permit shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of the permit; that facility expansions, production increases, or process modifications which result in new or increased discharges of pollutants must be reported by submission of a new NPDES application or, if such discharge does not violate effluent limitations specified in the NPDES permit, by submission to the director of notice of such new or increased discharges of pollutants; that the discharge of any pollutant more frequently than or at a level in excess of that identified and authorized by the permit shall constitute a violation of the terms and conditions of the permit; that if the terms and conditions of a general permit are no longer applicable to a discharge, the applicant shall apply for an individual NPDES permit;

b. That the permit may be amended, revoked and reissued, or terminated in whole or in part for the causes provided in 64.3(11) "b."

c. That the permittee shall permit the director or the director's authorized representative upon the presentation of credentials:

(1) To enter upon permittee's premises in which an effluent source is located or in which any records are required to be kept under terms and conditions of the permit;

(2) To have access to and copy any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of the permit;

(3) To inspect any monitoring equipment or method required in the permit; or

(4) To sample any discharge of pollutants.

d. That, if the permit is for a discharge from a publicly owned treatment works, the permittee shall provide notice to the director of the following:

(1) One hundred eighty days in advance of any new introduction of pollutants into such treatment works from a new source as defined in 567—Chapter 60 if such source were discharging pollutants;

(2) Except as specified below, 180 days in advance of any new introduction of pollutants into such treatment works from a source which would be subject to Section 301 of the Act if such source were discharging pollutants. However, the connection of such a source need not be reported if the source contributes less than 25,000 gallons of process wastewater per day at the average discharge, or contributes less than 5 percent of the organic or hydraulic loading of the treatment facility, or is not subject to a federal pretreatment standard adopted by reference in 567—Chapter 62, or does not contribute pollutants that may cause interference or pass through; and

(3) Sixty days in advance of any substantial change in volume or character of pollutants being introduced into such treatment works by a source introducing pollutants into such works at the time of issuance of the permit.

Such notice shall include information on the quality and quantity of effluent to be introduced into such treatment works and any anticipated impact of such change in the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from such publicly owned treatment works.

e. That, if the permit is for a discharge from a publicly owned treatment works, the permittee shall require any industrial user of such treatment works to comply with the requirements of Sections 204(b), 307, and 308 of the Act. As a means of ensuring such compliance, the permittee shall require that each industrial user subject to the requirements of Section 307 of the Act give to the permittee periodic notice (over intervals not to exceed six months) of progress toward full compliance with Section 307 requirements. The permittee shall forward a copy of the notice to the director.

f. That the permittee at all times shall maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible any facilities or systems of treatment and control which have been installed or are used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit. Proper operation and maintenance also include adequate laboratory control and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which have been installed by the permittee only when such operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

g. That if a toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under Section 307(a) of the Act for a toxic pollutant which is present in the permittee's discharge and such standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation upon such pollutant in the NPDES permit, the director shall revise or modify the permit in accordance with the toxic effluent standard or prohibition and so notify the permittee.

h. If an applicant for an NPDES permit proposes to dispose of pollutants into wells as part of a program to meet the proposed terms and conditions of an NPDES permit, the director shall specify additional terms and conditions of the issued NPDES permit which shall prohibit the proposed disposal or control the proposed disposal in order to prevent pollution of ground and surface water resources and to protect the public health and welfare. (See rule 567—62.9(455B) which prohibits the disposal of pollutants, other than heat, into wells within Iowa.)

i. That the permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of the permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

j. It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the terms of this permit.

**64.7(8) POTW compliance—plan of action required.** The owner of a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) must prepare and implement a plan of action to achieve and maintain compliance with final effluent limitations in its NPDES permit, as specified below:

a. The director shall notify the owner of a POTW of the plan of action requirement, and of an opportunity to meet with department staff to discuss the plan of action requirements. The POTW owner

shall submit a plan of action to the appropriate regional field office of the department within six months of such notice, unless a longer time is needed and is authorized in writing by the director.

*b.* The plan of action will vary in length and complexity depending on the compliance history and physical status of the particular POTW. It must identify the deficiencies and needs of the system, describe the causes of such deficiencies or needs, propose specific measures (including an implementation schedule) that will be taken to correct the deficiencies or meet the needs, and discuss the method of financing the improvements proposed in the plan of action. A plan may include the submittal of a disadvantaged community analysis in accordance with subrule 64.7(5), at the discretion of the POTW.

The plan may provide for a phased construction approach to meet interim and final limitations, where financing is such that a long-term project is necessary to meet final limitations, and shorter term projects may provide incremental benefits to water quality in the interim.

Information on the purpose and preparation of the plan can be found in the departmental document entitled "Guidance on Preparing a Plan of Action," available from the department's regional field offices.

*c.* Upon submission of a complete plan of action to the department, the plan should be reviewed and approved or disapproved within 60 days unless a longer time is required and the POTW owner is so notified.

*d.* The NPDES permit for the facility shall be amended to include the implementation schedule or other actions developed through the plan to achieve and maintain compliance.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 455B, division III, part 1 (455B.171 to 455B.187).

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 0529C, IAB 12/12/12, effective 1/16/13; ARC 2482C, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 2695C, IAB 8/31/16, effective 8/12/16; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

#### **567—64.8(455B) Reissuance of operation and NPDES permits.**

**64.8(1)** *Individual operation and NPDES permits.* Individual operation and NPDES permits will be reissued according to the procedures identified in 64.8(1) "a" to "c."

*a.* Any operation or NPDES permittee who wishes to continue to discharge after the expiration date of the permit shall file an application for reissuance of the permit at least 180 days prior to the expiration of the permit pursuant to 567—60.4(455B). For a POTW, permission to submit an application at a later date may be granted by the director. In addition, the applicant must submit up-to-date information on the permittee's production levels, the permittee's waste treatment practices, or the nature, contents, and frequency of the permittee's discharge, as required by the permit application.

*b.* The director shall follow the notice and public participation procedures specified in 567—64.5(455B) in connection with each request for reissuance of an NPDES permit.

*c.* Notwithstanding any other provision in these rules, any new point source the construction of which is commenced after the date of enactment of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (October 18, 1972) and which is so constructed as to meet all applicable standards of performance for new sources shall not be subject to any more stringent standard of performance during a ten-year period beginning on the date of completion of such construction or during the period of depreciation or amortization of such facility for the purposes of Section 167 or 169 (or both) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended through December 31, 1976, whichever period ends first.

**64.8(2)** *Renewal of coverage under a general permit.* Coverage under a general permit will be renewed subject to the terms and conditions in paragraphs "a" and "b."

*a.* If a permittee intends to continue an activity covered by a general permit for which an NOI is required beyond the expiration date of the general permit, the permittee must reapply and submit a complete NOI in accordance with the requirements specified in the applicable general permit.

*b.* A person holding a general permit is subject to the terms of the permit until either the permit expires, the authorization under the permit expires, or a Notice of Discontinuation is submitted in accordance with 64.6(5).

(1) If the person holding a general permit continues the activity beyond the expiration date of the permit and the permit will be reissued, the conditions of the expired general permit will remain in effect provided the permittee submits a complete NOI for coverage as required by the applicable general permit.



(2) If the person holding a general permit continues the activity beyond the expiration date of the permit and the general permit will not be reissued or renewed, the discharge must be permitted with an individual NPDES permit according to the procedures in 64.3(4) "a."

**64.8(3) Continuation of expiring operation and NPDES permits.**

a. The conditions of an expired operation or NPDES permit will continue in force until the effective date of a new permit if:

(1) The permittee has submitted a timely and complete application under 567—subrule 60.4(2); and

(2) The department, through no fault of the permittee, does not issue a new permit with an effective date on or before the expiration date of the previous permit.

b. Operation and NPDES permits continued under this subrule remain fully effective and enforceable.

c. If a permittee is not in compliance with the conditions of the expiring or continued permit, the department may choose to do any of the following:

(1) Initiate enforcement action on a permit which has been continued or reissued;

(2) Issue a notice of intent to deny a permit under 64.5(1);

(3) Reissue a permit with appropriate conditions in accordance with this subrule; or

(4) Take other actions authorized by this rule.

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 9365B, IAB 2/9/11, effective 3/30/11; ARC 2482C, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

**567—64.9(455B) Monitoring, record keeping and reporting by operation permit holders.** Operation permit holders are subject to any applicable requirements and provisions specified in the operation permit issued by the department and to the applicable requirements and provisions specified in 567—Chapter 63.

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 2482C, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16]

**567—64.10(455B) Silvicultural activities.** The following is adopted by reference: 40 CFR Section 122.27.

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

**567—64.11 and 64.12** Reserved.

**567—64.13(455B) Storm water discharges.**

**64.13(1)** The following is adopted by reference: 40 CFR Section 122.26.

**64.13(2)** Small municipal separate storm sewer systems.

a. For any discharge from a regulated small municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), the permit application must be submitted no later than March 10, 2003, if designated under this subrule.

b. All MS4s located in urbanized areas as defined by the latest decennial census and all MS4s which serve 10,000 people or more located outside urbanized areas and where the average population density is 1,000 people/square mile or more are regulated small MS4s unless waiver criteria established by the department are met and a waiver has been granted by the department.

c. Permit coverage requirements for MS4s located in urbanized areas and serving 1,000 or more people and fewer than 10,000 people may be waived if the following requirements are met:

(1) The department has evaluated all waters of the United States that receive a discharge from the MS4, and for all such waters, the department has determined that storm water controls are not needed based on wasteload allocations that are part of an EPA approved or established total maximum daily load (TMDL) that addresses the pollutants of concern or, if a TMDL has not been developed or approved, an equivalent analysis that determines sources and allocations for the pollutants of concern. The pollutants of concern include biochemical oxygen demand, sediment or a parameter that addresses sediment (total suspended solids, turbidity or siltation), pathogens, oil and grease, and any pollutant that has been identified as a cause of impairment of any water body that will receive a discharge from the MS4.

(2) The department has determined that future discharges from the MS4 do not have the potential to result in exceedances of water quality standards, including impairment of designated uses or other significant water quality impacts including habitat and biological impacts.

*d.* Permit coverage requirements for MS4s located in urbanized areas and serving fewer than 1,000 people may be waived if the following requirements are met:

(1) The system is not contributing substantially to the pollutant loadings of a physically interconnected MS4 that is regulated by the NPDES storm water program.

(2) The MS4 discharges any pollutants that have been identified as a cause of impairment of any water body to which the MS4 discharges and the department has determined that storm water controls are not needed based upon wasteload allocations that are a part of an EPA approved or established TMDL that addresses the pollutants of concern.

*e.* Permit coverage requirements for MS4s located outside of urbanized areas and serving 10,000 or more people may be waived if the following criterion is met:

The MS4 is not discharging pollutants which are the cause of the impairment to a water body designated by the department as impaired.

*f.* Should conditions under which the initial waiver was granted change, the waiver may be rescinded by the department and permit coverage may be required.

*g.* MS4 applications shall, at a minimum, demonstrate in what manner the applicant will develop, implement and enforce a storm water management program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the maximum extent practicable, to protect water quality and to satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act. The manner in which the permittee will address the following items must be addressed in the application: public education and outreach on storm water impacts, public involvement and participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site storm water runoff control, postconstruction storm water management in new development and redevelopment, and pollution prevention for municipal operations. Measurable goals which the applicant intends to meet and dates by which the goals will be accomplished shall be included with the application.

**64.13(3)** Waivers for storm water discharge associated with small construction activity. The director may waive the otherwise applicable requirements in a general permit for storm water discharge from small construction activities as defined in 567—Chapter 60 when:

*a.* The value of the rainfall erosivity factor (“R” in the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation) is less than 5 during the period of construction activity. The rainfall erosivity factor is determined in accordance with Chapter 2 of Agriculture Handbook Number 703, Predicting Soil Erosion by Water: A Guide to Conservation Planning With the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE), pages 21-64, dated January 1997; or

*b.* Storm water controls are not needed based on a TMDL approved or established by the EPA that addresses the pollutant(s) of concern or, for nonimpaired waters that do not require TMDLs, an equivalent analysis that determines allocations for small construction sites for the pollutant(s) of concern or that determines that such allocations are not needed to protect water quality based on consideration of existing in-stream concentrations, expected growth in pollutant contributions from all sources, and a margin of safety. The pollutant(s) of concern includes sediment or a parameter that addresses sediment (such as total suspended solids, turbidity or siltation) and any other pollutant that has been identified as a cause of impairment of any water body that will receive a discharge from the construction activity.

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

**567—64.14(455B) Transfer of title and owner or operator address change.** If title to any disposal system or part thereof for which a permit has been issued under rule 567—64.2(455B), 567—64.3(455B), or 567—64.6(455B) is transferred, the new owner or owners shall be subject to all terms and conditions of the permit. Whenever title to a disposal system or part thereof is changed, the department shall be notified in writing of such change within 30 days of the occurrence. When a discharge is covered by a general permit, the operator of record shall be subject to all terms and conditions of the permit. No transfer of the authorization to discharge from the facility represented by the permit shall take place prior

to notification of the department of the transfer of title. Whenever the address of the owner is changed, the department shall be notified in writing within 30 days of the address change.

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; ARC 9553B, IAB 6/15/11, effective 7/20/11; ARC 2482C, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 6191C, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

Rules 567—64.3(455B) to 567—64.14(455B) are intended to implement Iowa Code section 455B.173.

**567—64.15(455B) General permits issued by the department.** The following is a list of general permits adopted by the department through the Administrative Procedure Act, Iowa Code chapter 17A, and the term of each permit.

**64.15(1)** Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity, NPDES General Permit No. 1, effective March 1, 2023, to February 29, 2028. Facilities assigned Standard Industrial Classification 1442, 2951, or 3273, and those facilities assigned Standard Industrial Classification 1422 or 1423 which are engaged primarily in rock crushing are not eligible for coverage under General Permit No. 1.

**64.15(2)** Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities, NPDES General Permit No. 2, effective March 1, 2023, to February 29, 2028.

**64.15(3)** Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity from Asphalt Plants, Concrete Batch Plants, Rock Crushing Plants, and Construction Sand and Gravel Facilities, NPDES General Permit No. 3, effective March 1, 2023, to February 29, 2028. General Permit No. 3 authorizes storm water discharges from facilities primarily engaged in manufacturing asphalt paving mixtures and which are classified under Standard Industrial Classification 2951, primarily engaged in manufacturing Portland cement concrete and which are classified under Standard Industrial Classification 3273, those facilities assigned Standard Industrial Classification 1422 or 1423 which are primarily engaged in the crushing, grinding or pulverizing of limestone or granite, and construction sand and gravel facilities which are classified under Standard Industrial Classification 1442. General Permit No. 3 does not authorize the discharge of water resulting from dewatering activities at rock quarries.

**64.15(4)** “Discharge from Private Sewage Disposal Systems,” NPDES General Permit No. 4, effective March 1, 2023, to February 29, 2028.

**64.15(5)** “Discharge from Mining and Processing Facilities,” NPDES General Permit No. 5, effective July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2028.

**64.15(6)** “Discharge Associated with Well Construction Activities,” NPDES General Permit No. 6, effective July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2028.

**64.15(7)** “Pesticide General Permit (PGP) for Point Source Discharges to Waters of the United States from the Application of Pesticides,” NPDES General Permit No. 7, effective July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2028.

**64.15(8)** “Discharge from Hydrostatic Testing, Tank Ballasting and Water Lines,” NPDES General Permit No. 8, effective July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2028.

**64.15(9)** “Discharge from Dewatering and Residential Geothermal Systems,” NPDES General Permit No. 9, effective July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2028.

[ARC 7569B, IAB 2/11/09, effective 3/18/09; ARC 8520B, IAB 2/10/10, effective 3/17/10; ARC 9365B, IAB 2/9/11, effective 3/30/11; ARC 9553B, IAB 6/15/11, effective 7/20/11; ARC 0261C, IAB 8/8/12, effective 10/1/12; ARC 1337C, IAB 2/19/14, effective 3/26/14; ARC 1912C, IAB 3/18/15, effective 3/1/15; ARC 2054C, IAB 7/8/15, effective 8/12/15; ARC 2572C, IAB 6/8/16, effective 5/18/16; ARC 2571C, IAB 6/8/16, effective 7/20/16; ARC 3584C, IAB 1/17/18, effective 3/1/18; ARC 3585C, IAB 1/17/18, effective 3/1/18; ARC 3786C, IAB 5/9/18, effective 7/1/18; ARC 4609C, IAB 8/14/19, effective 3/1/20; ARC 5283C, IAB 11/18/20, effective 7/20/21; ARC 5284C, IAB 11/18/20, effective 5/18/21; ARC 6493C, IAB 9/7/22, effective 7/1/23; ARC 6734C, IAB 12/14/22, effective 3/1/23]

#### **567—64.16(455B) Fees.**

**64.16(1)** A person who applies for an individual permit to operate a disposal system shall submit along with the application an application fee as specified in 64.16(3)“b.” Certain individual facilities shall also be required to submit annual fees as specified in 64.16(3)“b.” For a wastewater construction permit, an application fee must be submitted with the application as specified in 64.16(3)“c.” For authorization under General Permits Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 5, the applicant has the option of paying an annual permit fee or a multiyear permit fee at the time the NOI for coverage is submitted as specified in 64.16(3)“a.”

For municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4s) permits and individual storm water permits, as defined in 567—60.2(455B), a one-time, multiyear permit fee must be submitted at the time of application. For all other individual non-storm water NPDES and operation permits, as defined in 567—60.2(455B), the applicant must submit an application fee at the time of application and the appropriate annual fee on a yearly basis, except for municipal water treatment facilities. If a facility needs coverage under more than one NPDES or operation permit, fees for each permit must be submitted appropriately.

Fees are nontransferable. Failure to submit the appropriate fee at the time of application renders the application incomplete, and the department shall suspend processing of the application until the fee is received. Failure to submit the appropriate annual fee may result in revocation or suspension of the permit as noted in 64.3(11).

**64.16(2)** Payment of fees. Fees shall be paid by check, credit card, electronic payment, or money order made payable to the “Iowa Department of Natural Resources.”

For facilities needing coverage under more than one permit (e.g., general, individual storm water, individual non-storm water), separate payments shall be made according to the fee schedule in 64.16(3).

**64.16(3)** Fee schedule. The following fees have been adopted:

a. General permit fees. No fees shall be assessed for coverage under general permits not listed in this paragraph. The following fees are applicable to the described general permits:

- (1) Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity, NPDES General Permit No. 1.

Annual Permit Fee . . . . .	\$175(per year)
or	
Five-year Permit Fee . . . . .	\$700
Four-year Permit Fee . . . . .	\$525
Three-year Permit Fee . . . . .	\$350

All fees are to be submitted with the NOI for coverage under the general permit.

- (2) Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities, NPDES General Permit No. 2. The fees are the same as those specified for General Permit No. 1 in subparagraph (1) of this paragraph.

- (3) Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity from Asphalt Plants, Concrete Batch Plants, and Rock Crushing Plants, NPDES General Permit No. 3. The fees are the same as those specified for General Permit No. 1 in subparagraph (1) of this paragraph.

- (4) Discharge from Mining and Processing Facilities, NPDES General Permit No. 5.

Annual Permit Fee . . . . .	\$125 (per year)
or	
Five-year Permit Fee . . . . .	\$500
Four-year Permit Fee . . . . .	\$400
Three-year Permit Fee . . . . .	\$300

New facilities seeking General Permit No. 5 coverage shall submit fees with the NOI for coverage. Maximum coverage is for five years. Coverage may also be obtained for four years, three years, or one year, as shown in the fee schedule above. Existing facilities shall submit annual fees by August 30 of every year, unless a multiyear fee payment was received in an earlier year. In the event a facility is no longer eligible to be covered under General Permit No. 5, the remainder of the fees previously paid by the facility shall be applied toward its individual permit fees.

b. Individual NPDES and operation permit fees. The following fees are applicable for the described individual permits:

- (1) For individual storm water permits, a five-year permit fee of \$1,250 must accompany the application.

(2) For permits that authorize the discharge of only storm water from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) and any allowable non-storm water, a five-year permit fee of \$1,250 must accompany the application.

(3) For individual non-storm water NPDES and operation permits, a single application fee of \$85 as established in Iowa Code section 455B.197 is due at the time of application. The \$1,250 fee in subparagraphs (1) and (2) is not required for individual non-storm water permits that authorize storm water discharges along with other wastewater discharges. The \$85 application fee is to be submitted with the application forms (as required by 567—Chapter 60) at the time of a new application, renewal application, or amendment application. Before an approved amendment request submitted by a facility holding a non-storm water NPDES or operation permit can be processed by the department, the \$85 fee must be submitted, except when an amendment is initiated by the director, when the requested amendment will correct an error in the permit, when the amendment is for a disadvantaged community compliance schedule or nutrient reduction strategy, or when there is a transfer of title or change in the address of the owner as noted in 567—64.14(455B).

(4) For individual non-storm water NPDES and operation permits, the following annual fees, as established in Iowa Code section 455B.197, are due by August 30 of each year:

1. Major municipal facility: \$1,275.
2. Minor municipal facility: \$210. For a city with a population of 250 or less, the maximum fee shall be \$210 regardless of how many individual non-storm water NPDES permits the city holds.
3. Semipublic facility: \$340.
4. Major industrial facility: \$3,400.
5. Minor industrial facility: \$300.
6. Facilities that hold an operation permit: \$170.
7. Animal feeding operations covered by a non-storm water NPDES permit: \$340.

(5) For a municipal water treatment facility with an individual non-storm water NPDES permit, no fees shall be assessed.

(6) For a new facility covered by an individual non-storm water NPDES or operating permit, a prorated annual fee, calculated by taking the annual fee amount multiplied by the number of months remaining before the next annual fee due date divided by 12, is due 30 days after the new permit is issued.

c. Wastewater construction permit fees. A single construction permit fee as established in Iowa Code section 455B.197 is due at the time of construction permit application submission.

**64.16(4)** Fee refunds for storm water general permit coverage—pilot project. Rescinded IAB 10/16/02, effective 11/20/02.

**64.16(5)** Fee refunds.

a. Individual and general permit application, permit, and annual fees may be refunded, completely or in part, at the discretion of the director. Permittees who wish to receive fee refunds should notify the department in writing. Fees may be refunded under various circumstances, including, but not limited to:

(1) A duplicate fee was submitted (for example, two annual fees for the same permit are paid in the same fiscal year).

(2) A fee was overpaid.

(3) A fee was submitted but is not required as part of the permit application or renewal (for example, an individual annual permit fee was submitted for a discontinued permit, a general permit NOI fee was submitted for an individual permit, or an amendment fee was submitted for a permit that cannot be amended).

(4) An application is returned to the applicant by the department without decision.

b. Fees shall not be refunded under any of the following conditions:

(1) If the permit or permit coverage is suspended, revoked, or modified, or if the activity is discontinued or ceased.

(2) If a permit is amended.

(3) If a permit application is withdrawn by the applicant or denied by the department pursuant to 64.5(1).

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 2/11/09; **ARC 7625B**, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09; **ARC 8520B**, IAB 2/10/10, effective 3/17/10; **ARC 9365B**, IAB 2/9/11, effective 3/30/11; **ARC 9553B**, IAB 6/15/11, effective 7/20/11; **ARC 2482C**, IAB 4/13/16, effective 5/18/16; **ARC 3786C**, IAB 5/9/18, effective 7/1/18; **ARC 6191C**, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

**567—64.17(455B) Nutrient reduction exchange.** The department shall maintain a registry of nonpoint source nutrient reduction practices installed by permittees. Practices listed in the registry may be eligible for future regulatory incentives.

[**ARC 6191C**, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

**567—64.18(455B) Validity of rules.** If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or word of these rules, or any part thereof, be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of said rules shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect.

[**ARC 6191C**, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

**567—64.19(455B) Applicability.** This chapter shall apply to all waste disposal systems treating or intending to treat sewage, industrial waste, or other waste except waste resulting from livestock or poultry operations. All livestock and poultry operations constituting animal feeding operations as defined in 567—Chapter 65 shall be governed by the requirements contained in Chapter 65. However, the provisions of this chapter concerning NPDES permits which relate to notice and public participation, to the terms and conditions of the permit, to the reissuance of the permit and to monitoring, reporting and record-keeping activities shall apply to animal feeding operations which are required to apply for and obtain an NPDES permit to the extent that such requirements are not inconsistent with 567—Chapter 65.

[**ARC 1627C**, IAB 9/17/14, effective 10/22/14; **ARC 6191C**, IAB 2/9/22, effective 3/16/22]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 455B, division III, part 1.

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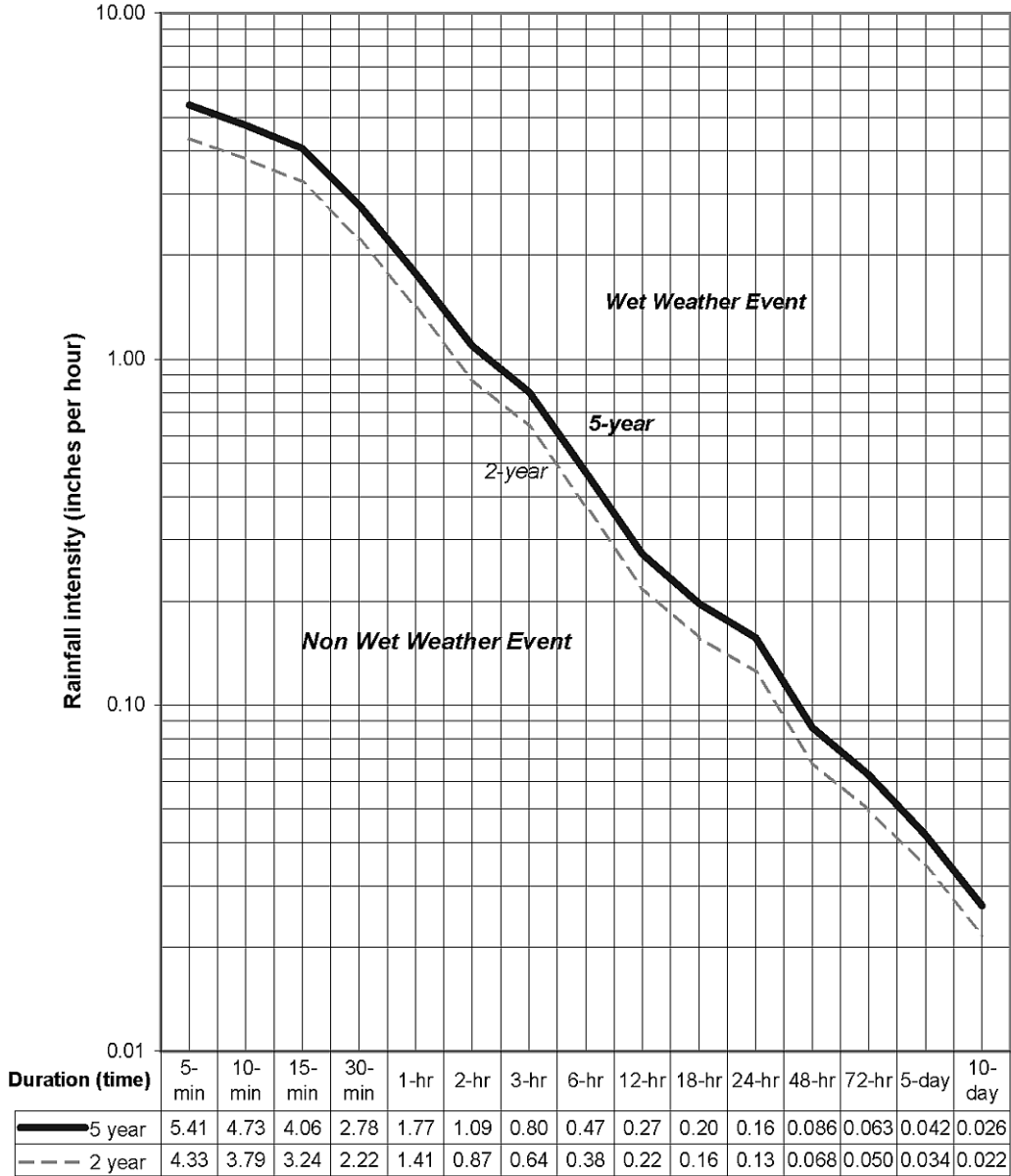
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<sup>1</sup> Effective date of 64.2(9)“c” delayed 70 days by the Administrative Rules Review Committee. The 70-day delay of effective date of 64.2(9)“c” was lifted by the Administrative Rules Review Committee on 7/31/86.

### APPENDIX A Rainfall Intensity - Duration - Frequency Curve (5 and 2 year Return Intervals)

Data Source: Rainfall Frequency Atlas of the Midwest, Illinois State Water Survey, 1992.



Rainfall intensity data points (inches per hour)

[ARC 7625B, IAB 3/11/09, effective 4/15/09]